United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Voluntary Return Letter Acknowledgement

Dear Applicant:

Pursuant to Article 7 of the 1980 Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Convention), and to encourage voluntary resolutions to International Parental Child Abduction cases, the U.S. Central Authority often sends a Voluntary Return Letter to the parent currently living with the child informing him or her of the application for return of the child/ren to their habitual residence under the Convention. The letter also provides general information about the Convention, explains our role as Central Authority, and informs the parent that if a voluntary resolution is not reached, court proceedings may be initiated by the other parent.

The U.S. Central Authority sends this letter as part of our regular process, but recognizes that sending such a letter may not be appropriate in all cases. For this reason, we ask you to consider your family's circumstances and inform our office as to whether or not you would like us to send the letter.

Please note the decision to send the letter rests solely with the U.S. Central Authority. Sending such a letter should not be considered a judgment by our office as to the merits of any particular case. Should our office determine that it is appropriate under the Convention to send a Voluntary Access Letter in your case, we will provide you with a copy of the letter that is sent.

Please complete and sign the statement below.

I, _____ (applicant parent), ask the U.S. Central Authority to:

☐ Yes, send Voluntary Return Letter

☐ No, please DO NOT send Voluntary Return Letter.

to _____ (parent with child) under the Hague Convention as a way to seek a voluntary resolution of my case. If selecting "No" please explain the reason:

_____

_____

_____

_____ _____

Signature Date